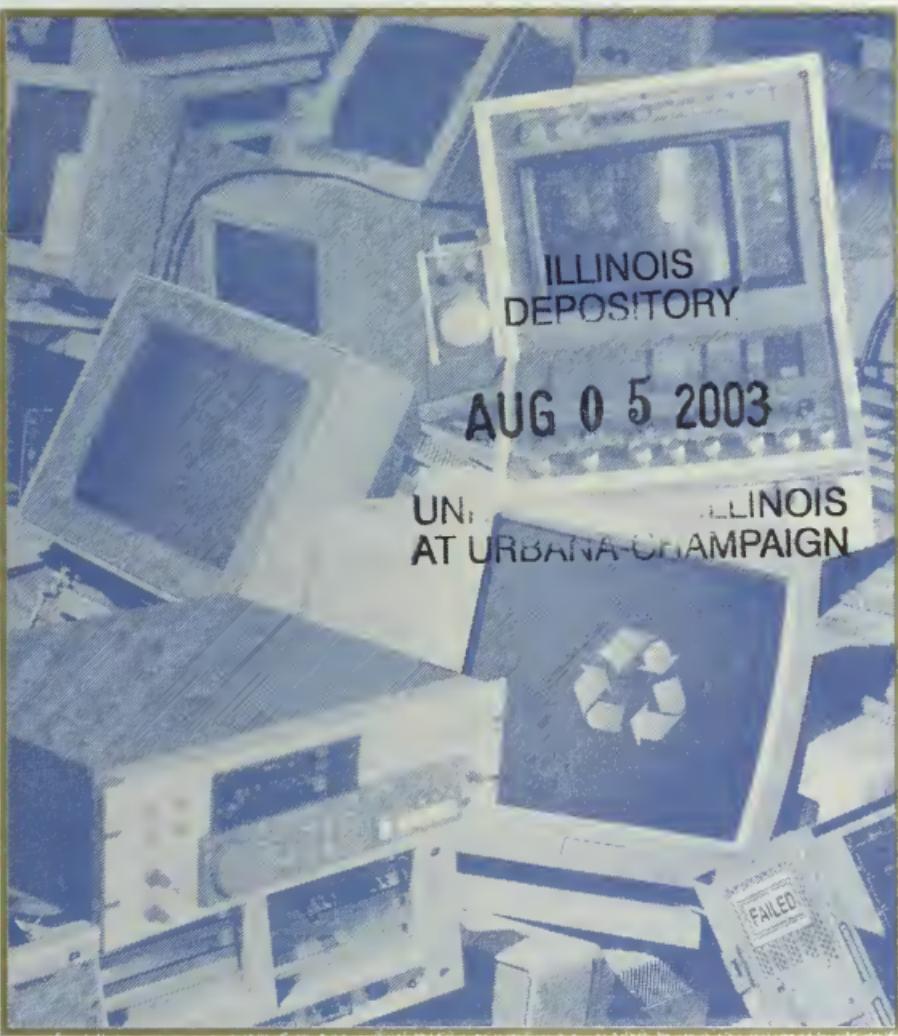


MANAGING USED COMPUTERS & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT



BUREAU OF ENERGY
AND RECYCLING

ILLINOIS
RIGHT HERE. RIGHT NOW. SM

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Rod R. Blagojevich • Governor
Jack Lavin • Director

As the number of products with electronic components continues to grow, the resulting increase in electronic waste poses a challenge for solid waste managers. Examples of electronic equipment include: computer monitors and computers, televisions, photocopiers, facsimile machines, video monitoring equipment, telephones, and communications and audio equipment.

Computers provide an example of the increasing numbers of electronic equipment entering the waste stream. The Carnegie Mellon University Green Design Initiative Technical Report #97-10 estimates that 55 million whole personal computers will be landfilled by 2005, which will require 135 million cubic feet of landfill space, base on a weighted average of 42 pounds for each personal computer which occupies a volume of 2.4 cubic feet.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNs

Electronic equipment may contain significant quantities of hazardous materials such as lead, mercury, cadmium, chromium, lithium, nickel, and zinc. If mismanaged, these materials can be harmful to human health and the environment. In addition, precious metals such as silver and gold can be found in electronic equipment. These materials may be found in monitors, printers, keyboards, laptops, terminals and mainframes.

WHAT ARE THE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR USED COMPUTERS?

Options are available that give old computers a new lease on life, spare the expense and hassle of managing them as fully-regulated hazardous waste, and safeguard the environment. The following list provides some ideas to get you started.

Computer Donation

Donating usable computers to a school or nonprofit group benefits both the receiving organization and the company making the donation.

Re-Purpose It

Downstream the computer to a less critical or demanding application. For example, use it in a home network as an extra terminal sharing a broadband connection, set it up for someone less technical to get e-mail, or let the youngsters run educational games on it. The more technically adept can turn it into a Linux or Web server.

Resale

Some companies sell or offer their used computers to employees. Others sell or give them to computer repair/resale businesses.

Leasing

Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), such as IBM, Digital, Dell, Compaq and Gateway, offer leasing options. Many third party leasing operations, which purchase and lease OEM equipment, are listed on the Internet at <http://www.remarketing.com/html/leasing>. Contact companies directly for more information.

Asset Management

Asset management companies provide a full-service electronics collection, component recovery and refurbishing program for corporations. A list of these companies can be found at: <http://www.remarketing.com/html/user/list-brokers.cgi>.

Materials Exchange

List the items on a materials exchange that finds users for surplus materials.

Computer Recyclers

There are a number of recycling centers and electronics manufacturers in Illinois and the Midwest. These businesses disassemble computers, salvage parts and sell reclaimed materials. Before choosing a computer recycler, check to make sure the firm meets applicable environmental, safety and health programs, and has disposal and recycling outlets for the recovered materials.

WHAT TO ASK WHEN SELECTING A COMPUTER RECYCLER / ELECTRONIC MANAGEMENT COMPANY:

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) cautions generators to personally evaluate the services and compliance status of any company they use to manage equipment. Here are some questions that help you evaluate potential computer recyclers and electronic management companies:

- Does the firm have the necessary state and local permits?
- Does the company accept the type of equipment you would like to recycle?
- What fee does the facility charge?
- How does the facility manage the materials and wastes?
- Does the firm have contracts with foundries and scrap dealers for its metals? Does the firm have contracts with precious metal refiners for its circuit boards? Has the company completed an environmental audit of these facilities?
- Is there a program in place for handling and managing cathode ray tubes (CRTs)?
- Can the company provide certification that explains what materials can be disposed?
- Does the firm have liability insurance?
- Does the company have a safety plan and worker training program?

The attached list of computer recyclers and reuse organizations is provided for information purposes. DCEO does not endorse specific companies or services, nor does it imply that the companies listed are in compliance with applicable laws.

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Manufacturers' Recycling Programs "Take-Back Programs"

Best Buy Take Back Program

<http://www.bestbuy.com>

Consumers can take back their old electronics to some Best Buy stores in the U.S. To find additional information contact your local Best Buy store.

IBM Product End-of-Life Management (PELM) Service

<http://www.IBM.com/Financing> or www.pc.ibm.com/wu/healthyc-computing/entreport/end.html

IBM offers a computer take-back program for machines from any manufacturer. For a \$29.99 fee that includes shipping, IBM will help recycle your old PC. Computers, monitors, printers and other hardware will either be recycled in an environmentally friendly way or donated to a charity. For further information, please call IBM at **888 /746-7426** or **800/334-9693** or visit their Web site.

COMPAQ Computer Asset Recovery Services (CARS)

(CARS) serves as a single convenient, responsible source for disposition of any brand of computer-related equipment. Call CARS access line at **800/580-7370** to learn more.

Dell Financial Services (DFS) Asset Recovery Services

http://www.dell.com/us/en/bied/services/asset_000.htm

Dell's current recycling program offers consumers a \$15 at-home pickup service for dispatching old PCs for donation or recycling. In addition, DFS offers two asset disposition services, Value Recovery Services for functional equipment, and PC Recycling Services for nonfunctional or outdated equipment to help customers manage used electronic equipment. For additional information or a quote on your equipment, e-mail Dell at US_DES_AssetRecovery@Dell.com or call **800/955-3355 ext. 36634**.

Gateway

Gateway has taken a different approach. Purchasers of a new Gateway Computer can either trade in their old equipment (as long as it has value) or donate it to a charitable organization and receive a rebate of up to \$50. It is the consumer's responsibility to identify a charity that will take the used equipment. Thus, Gateway provides an incentive to keep old computers out of storage or disposal facilities, but is not itself involved in their end-of-life management.

Hewlett-Packard (HP)

<http://www.hp.com>

HP offers product end-of-life return programs for HP and other manufacturers' hardware. The company will take back equipment made by any manufacturer for a fee ranging from \$13 to \$34, depending on the component. Consumers must box the equipment, but FedEx will pick it up at their door. Equipment is shipped to HP facilities in California and Tennessee for recycling by MicroMetallics.

Safety-Kleen

<http://www.safety-kleen.com>

Hazardous waste company Safety-Kleen will collect electronic scrap from its clients.

MPC Program

<http://www.buympc.com/services/shared/recycle.html>

MPC's recycling program allows customers purchasing new MPC equipment to return old equipment for recycling. A \$35 per unit disposal fee is charged for returns of fewer than five systems; companies may qualify for a rebate on quantities of five systems or more. Customers must purchase at least as many new MPC systems as the number of systems returned.

MIDWEST COMPUTER RECYCLERS & REUSE ORGANIZATIONS

ILLINOIS

AAA Environmental
8885 Marshall Rd
McGaw Park IL 60056 438

AT&T, Inc. 1700

A&K Recovery
Box 8401

Shawville Rd

Salem IL 62881

Phone: 618-548-3000

Alpha Recovery
111 Towne Center

Waukegan IL 60222-4010

Phone: 618-285-0100

Fax: 618-285-0100

Assistive Technology Exchange
Netwerk, A Program of United
Catholic Parishes of Greater
Chicago

7550 West 18th Street

Skokie Park IL 60077

Phone: 847-475-2850

Fax: 847-475-0709

Assistive Technology Exchange
Netwerk, Chicago

100 North Wacker Drive

Chicago IL 60606

Phone: 312-384-0380

Fax: 312-384-0388

atnetwerk@atnetwerk.org

Belman Trading Company

100 MacArthur Blvd

Northbrook IL 60062

Phone: 847-432-9990

Fax: 847-432-9990

www.belmantrading.com

BII Computers
3215 Stanton Ave

Springfield IL 62707

Phone: 217-585-1580

Fax: 217-585-1580

Blind Services Association

22 W Monroe St, 11th Floor

Chicago IL 60603

Phone: 312-234-0808

Fax: 312-234-0808

Blue Electronics

111 E Seminary Street

Rockford IL 61101

Phone: 815-987-2775

Fax: 815-987-2776

christ@blueelectronics.com

Central Illinois Access

1911 NE Adams

Peoria IL 61603

Phone: 309/299-1110

Fax: 309/299-1110

www.illaccess.org

Chicago Coalition for
Information Access/Community
Technology Assistance Program
C/O NED

3411 N Diversey Suite 1

Chicago IL 60647

Phone: 773-384-4827

Fax: 773-384-3904

edward@chicagoaccess.org

Computer Recycling Center

719 W Ridge Rd

Peoria IL 61614

Phone: 309/691-8740

Fax: 309/691-8740

Computers for Schools

3350 N Kedzie Ave

Chicago IL 60618-1029

Phone: 800-939-6000

773/583-5755

Fax: 773/583-5785

willie@pcforschools.org

Computer Recyclers

100 N Michigan Ave

Chicago IL 60601

Phone: 312-920-0000

Fax: 312-920-0000

Computer Recycling Center

429 Madison St

Highland IL 62219-1320

Phone: 618/654-3293

Fax: 618/654-3293

Computer Recovery

100 S Michigan Ave

Chicago IL 60603

Phone: 312-920-0000

Fax: 312-920-0000

Computer Recycling Center

100 N Michigan Ave

Chicago IL 60601

Phone: 312-920-0000

Fax: 312-920-0000

Computer Recycling Center

100 N Michigan Ave

Chicago IL 60601

Phone: 312-920-0000

Fax: 312-920-0000

Computer Recycling Center

100 N Michigan Ave

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Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
Bureau of Energy and Recycling
620 East Adams
Springfield, IL 62701